WENDELL POST

Vol. IV No. 4
1981-82

Dec.-Jan.

25¢

SEASON'S GREETINGS

Special Town Meeting

Tuesday, December 15, 1981
7:00 pm, Town Hall

Article 1: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds the additional sum of $6,622 for the operation of the Swift River School or take any other action thereto.

Article 2: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds the additional sum of $12,500 for Local Education Expense or take any other action thereto.

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds an additional sum for the Road Machinery Maintenance and Operation Account or take any action thereon. ($1,000)

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds a sum to purchase buildings and property belonging to Artel Bourbeau on the Old Farley Road across from the Arch Street Bridge or take any action thereon ($18,000) 2/3 vote required, not recommended by the Selectmen.

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds a sum of money to be used as Wendell's share of Bridge Repairs to the two bridges that connect Erving and Wendell. Bridge #1 the "Arch Street Bridge" which crosses the Millers River between Erving Center and the Old Farley Road. Bridge #2 the "Farley Bridge" in Farley, or take any action thereon. ($45,000)

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from "Free Cash" a sum of money to be used by the Assessors to reduce the Tax Rate or take any action thereto.

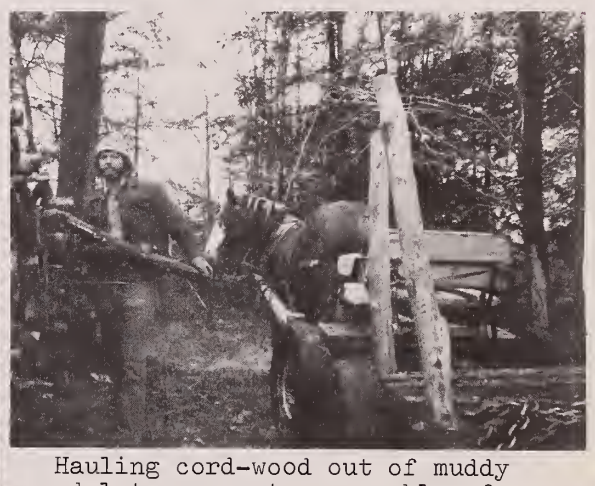
Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate from avialable funds a sum of $121.50 to pay Bills of Prior Years or take any action thereon. Requires 9/10 vote.

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to accept the following Zoning By-Law:

Radioactive Waste Disposal: No land within any use district in the Town of Wendell may be used for the collection, treatment, storage burial, incineration, or disposal of radioactive waste, including but not limited to wastes classified as low-level radioactive waste. Requires 2/3 vote.

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate from avialable funds the additional sum of $646.00 to the Comprehensive Insurance Account or take any action thereon.

Article 10: To transact any other legal business that may come before said meeting.



Hauling cord-wood out of muddy wood lots presents no problem for Don Richardson and work-partner "Colonel". Don tosses a last log on the stack and, reins in hand, chainsaw on the seat beside him, pipe clenched in teeth, heads back in for more.

Inside Stories

WENDELL HISTORY continued

SCHOOL NEWS

POSTING PLACE

SELECTBOARD MINUTES

NEW SALEM POSTINGS

DEATH OF TWO RESIDENTS

Townhall – New Look,

If you've been inside the Town hall since late November you've seen a big change, an improvement from stark to homey & dressed up.

As a gift to the Town the Golden Agers had long drapes made for the hall. The effect is one of warmth. The drapes seem to tie the many elements of the room together the tin ceiling, the wide board floor, plus the echos aren't as severe now.

President Edna Lauro explains "The Golden Agers had a booth at old home day. The Town was good to us. We wanted to be good to the Town." From the profits recieved at Old Home Day the members decided to purchase a gift for the Town They researched the matter of drapes & found that codes required fire proof material. Chief Ricketts verified that this is true. They hired a professional to make the drapes, Mrs. Galipo who was once a resident of Wendell. She brought samples of material. They found the selection of fire-proof material very limited, but they picked for color & got a certificate verifiying the fireproofness of the material & sent the certificate in to the proper authorities.

continued pg. 2

Ladies Aid Celebrate Christmas

Look forward to the ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY sponsored by the Ladies Aide of Wendell. December 21 at the Townhall, infants to school children grade 6 are invited for an evening of - Films - Song - Dance Program - with special North Pole guest.

Note: The final 1-20 Club Drawing will also be held that evening.

Opinion

The good feeling generated by the Wenell Bicential seems to have left Wendell Town in very good spirits.

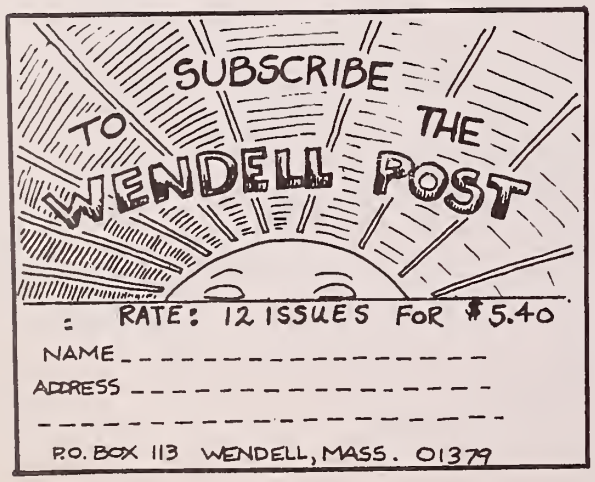
Although its a bit sad that the celebration is nearing its end & it would be fun to hang on to the specialness a little longer, there is a lot to look back on, a lot of good people who had surprises up their sleeves & energy, a lot of nice things about the town to remember. And maybe the Bicentennial had a lasting impact. Surely the Town looks physically improved. Up and down the line the lawns and houses looked nicer this summer, more flowers & landscaping. New projects were started & old ones completed, a finished chimney here, some new siding there, a new bush.

The center shows that people worked deliberately in groups. The church is recieving attention & care. The library looks sharp in new paint. The cemetaries & common looked especially groomed. The Fire House was spruced up. The townhall, a whole subject in it self, has become a real showplace.

People did a little extra, gave a day over to scrape old paint or call on the phone to get something going; donated pies, money; offered their vehicles to do dump runs & picked up old bottles by the roadside, they went to Swift River to help & share; they put on a bonnet or a tri-corner hat & gave a speech. All through the year people showed up at the festivities, came out to be a part. There's the slide show to remember it by.

The point is, somehow a bunch of people in an out of the way place with a funny name, stuck on a rocky hill with no Chamber of Commerce nor money to speak of, up and had a good time that they made themselves and ended up feeling pretty good about themselves. It's a nice normal example of how people can live in this world. Some might call it a Statement, even an Expression. Some might say its a Sociological Event. We just say, "It's Wendell."

by Kathy-Ann Becker



Special Indian Assembly

Jean Forward shared some of the wealth of her knowledge about local Indians with the younger children at school. She entranced each group with her stories about Indian customs. The first and second grade learned about 5 Thanksgivings the Indians have. They celebrate maple syrup, the first berries - strawberries, green beans, Indian Summer, and the last berries, after the sweetness is gone, cranberries.

Jean brought owl claws and porcupine hairs to show how Indians used to decorate themselves and their clothes.

The experience meant a great deal to the kids and we would like to thank Jean for offering her time and special knowledge.

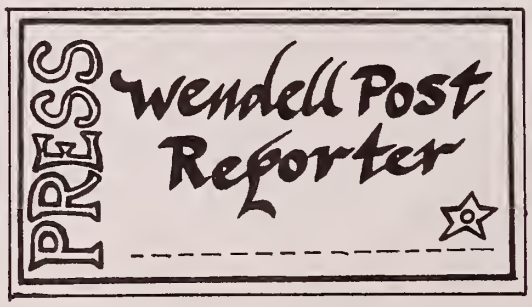
We will be studying the whole world and welcome people's foreign experience to be shared.

A "Post" Pat

As the year comes to a close the Wendell Post offers a special note of thanks for the contributions given by Wendell Post typists Lynn Ready & Penny Scott, to our advertising manager Faith Diemand, and to Distribution & Circulation manager Brenda Vincent.

Because all labor supplied to the Wendell Post is volunteer, the survival of the newspaper for almost 5 years is the result of the giving of many wonderful people. Work is work, but some of it is more fun than others. These 4 people have been particularly dedicated in behind the scene areas that require a lot of time. So once again thanks!

Help Wanted: Reporters



Townhall... continued

Harry & Del Williston hung the travis rods & then the drapes.

On Tuesday, Dec. 8, the Golden Agers will hold a Holiday Dinner. At this time the members will see for themselves the results.

The painting that the Bicentennial Committee had commissioned by Rhea Ormond to give as a gift to the town has been hung in the Townhall, as well as the Bicential Medallion hand carved by George Butler. The Selectmen had Harold Burnett frame & hang these gifts.

Further additions include a rug in the ante way, which Selectman Ted Lewis explains that Tom Mangan sold at cost. The fans in the ceiling have been installed to hopefully push heat down & keep the furn ace from running so much. Another change, Harry & Del Williston have taken over the care of the Townhall replacing Tom Bardsley.

Selectman Ted Lewis added that t the Selectboard plans also to hang in the hall a large flag presented recently to the town. The flag, once flown over the Capitol Building, was a gift from our Rep. Bill Benson.

Wendell Dogs Saved From the Laboratory

Townspeople have devoted time & energyworking with the Selectmen & The New England Anti-Vivisection Society in order to back House Bill 1245, which would repeal the law allowing any animal held in public custody to be sold, delivered to, or given to laboratories. Wendell Selectmen have endorsed this move that fights the state law allowing animals in dog pounds to be used for research.

WENDELL POST

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Wendell Looses 2 Fine Men...

~ Leo A. Jones ~

Sept. 5, 1917 - Nov. 18, 1981

Leo Jones, Sr. died suddenly at home of a stroke and a massive coronary. A few days earlier Leo had gotten a cold when he was out in the woods picking evergreens, but he was up and better on the day he passed away.

Leo had lived in Wendell for 25 years or so. He was known as an independant man with a sense of fun. He created his own business, his office the Wendell woods, picking evergreens and laurel. He liked his job, taught his children to like the work so much that they intend to carry on his business after him. As his son Leo says, "He didn't like factories. He was self-employed almost all his life. He liked to dance, to work hard and play hard, he enjoyed life." Leo gardened, fished and hunted, he worked as a logger and sometimes for the Town. At one time he was deputy Tree warden.

Leo learned resourcefullness at a young age. He grew up in Jamaica, VT., but at the age of 12 he and his brothers and sisters suffered the death of their parents during the Great Depression. Leo struck out to find work farming and logging. Eventually he found his way to this area where men were needed to timber over with cross-cut saws a large tract of land destined to become the Quabbin Reservoir.

Leo married, bought land and a home and raised a family on New Salem Rd., now the present E. Judice residence. Years later Leo and his family moved to New Salem, but he returned here to stay after his divorce.

Leo was close with his 8 children and will be missed by them and many friends. He also leaves 3 sisters in Jamaica, VT, and 14 grandchildren.

Leo's children request that donations in lieu of flowers be given to the Wendell Church to help with the restoration project.

K.B.

Checks to:
Wendell Church Fund
c/o Lillian Gibbs

~ Romeo Caron ~

On November 8th Wendell lost one of its best known citizens when Romeo Caron passed on at the Franklin County Public Hospital. Born in St. Jean Port Joli, Canada, Feb. 2, 1910, he had moved to Chicopee with his family when only in his early teens. He attended school in Chicopee and later worked in Uniroyal for forty years. He married Helena Chagnon and they lived in Granby until his retirement from Uniroyal in 1966, when they moved to Wendell purchasing the Charles Fiske property on Morse Village Road. He loved Wendell and often spoke of the many friends he had made here and of the peace and beauty. An animal lover, he referred to his two dogs and several cats as his little family and he gave them much love and care.

Coming from the village of St. Jean Port Joli, only a couple of miles from the St. Lawrence River, he had a heritage of wood carving dating from the 1600's. Recently this French Canadian village was described in a leading newspaper as now famous as an artists' and craftsmen's center for its woodcarving. Many persons were familiar with his window boxes which he made and gave freely to his friends He also built his own large log cabin. However, he also made butter churns, hope chests and miniature houses and carvings.

He was an active member of the Golden Agers and always enjoyed the comaraderie he found there.

Many persons here also remember him for his talent as caller at square dances. He naturally liked people. and of him it can be said, as of few persons, that he never spoke an unkind word of anyone, but felt friendship for all.

M.H.

Wendell Leads County in Nuclear Referendum Petition

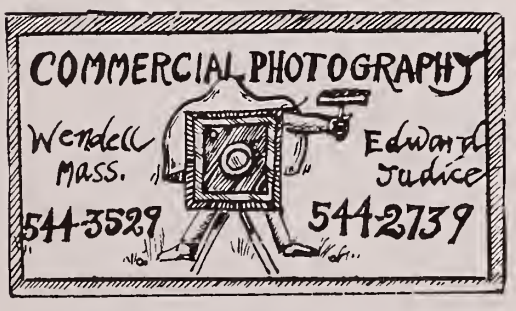
In the petition drive for the Massachusetts Nuclear Referendum Campaign, Wendell surpassed all other Franklin County towns with signatures from 55% of its registered voters. Campaign organizer, Al Giordano, praised the town, saying, "We are very proud of Wendell's response to this critical issue. It's great to see a small town express such unified concern through the democratic process."

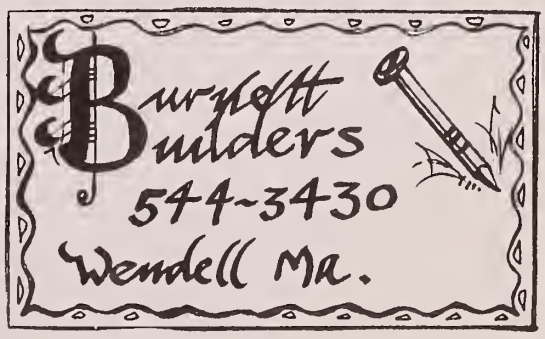
In Franklin county, one out of eight voters signed the petition. Town Clerks around the state were overwhelmed by the response, as over 91,000 signatures were submitted to them for certification. The Campaign easily surpassed the 58,868 legal signatures required to submit the bill to the House for legislative action.

The legisture has until May 6, 1982 to pass, reject, or ignore the bill, which cannot be amended. If they decline to approve the bill an additional 9,812 new signatures must be collected between May 6 and June 17 in order to place the question on the fall ballot as a binding referendum. And on Election Day, Nov. 2, 1982, the voters of The Commonwealth will determine if they want the right to decide on the siting of new nuclear power plants or radioactive waste dumps.

The nuclear industry and its cohorts will probably spend over a million dollars in advertising to subvert the efforts of this populist movement, and to prevent the citizens of Massachusetts from collectively voicing their opinion on the dangers of nuclear power. Donations are badly needed to counter this effort, which will likely distort the issues of the referendum campaign. Please send your contributions to: Mass Alert
70 Federal Street
Greenfield, MA 01301

Wendell campaign coordinator John "Klondike" Koehler wishes to express his great appreciation to the Wendell petitioners: Charles Smith, Karen Idoine, George Butler, Dorothy McIver, Teri Nelson, Annie White-Diemand, Nina Keller, Emma Cappelluzzo, Shane Devine, and The Wendell Country Store. Also, thanks to Town Clerk Anna Hartjers for the certification of the signatures and thanks to all of our citizens who cast this important vote for Home Rule.





Wendell Free Library Notes

In November, the library trustees purchased many new books and some toys to add to our collection, including coloring books, jigsaw puzzles, and a set of Lego building blocks. During National Children's Book Week, 2 film shows were presented in the library and one at Head Start. The insulating of the library was completed, thanks to the efforts of Margaret and Pliny Stebbins, Bob Bowers, and Ingrid Pfohl.

The library now has its winter hours in effect:

Tuesdays 2-4 and 6-8
Wednesdays 12-4 and 6-8
Saturday hours resume in May.

On Dec. 21, we will sponsor movies at the Ladies Aid Christmas Party for children in the Town Hall

Here's a good New Year's Resolution: please return all the overdue library materials you have. We wish everyone Happy Holidays!

Tina Cohen

Swift River Notes

If you have a child or neighbor in the 5th or 6th grade at Swift River School, you have probably already been asked, "Do you have a job for me to do? I'm earning money for our class to go to the Hulburt Center."

The trip that the students are busily raising money for is a 4 day visit to the Hulburt outdoor education center in Farley, VT. The trip is scheduled to take place in the late spring. Students, teachers and parents are particularly excited because it is the first time a class from Swift River has participated in an experience of this type.

The program at Hulburt will include academic programs in areas such as geography, geology, archeology and ecology, group cooperation and adventure games; and all the experiences that go along with living in cabins and cooking one's own meals.

Fifth and sixth grade teachers first learned about Hulburt this fall when Linda Coyle, a former Hulburt teacher, joined the Swift River School staff. Leonard Strauss principal, visited the outdoor education center in October and was very impressed. He invited John Hall, the center's director, to present a slide show and answer questions on Parent's Night. The response on the part of attending parents and teachers was enthusiastic. The results of a survey sent home to parents of all 5th/6th graders indicated that the vast majority approved of plans for a trip to the center. A large number of parents also expressed interest in coming along as chaperones.

Each child will be asked to pay for approximately 1/3 of their expenses. The other 2/3 will be earned through fund-raising projects. A few fundraisers planned for this winter and spring: a tag sale/carnival, a raffle and a movie.

Births

Peter Jesse Diemand born October 9, 1981 at 11:07 am. to Peter Albert and Linda Ann Blizniak Diemand of Mormon Hollow Rd. Peter was born at Franklin County Hospital in Greenfield.

Freda Joy Stebbins was born on November 17 1981 at 11:50 am at the Franklin County Hospital in Greenfield. Congratulations to Pliny Allen and Margaret Ann Murphy Stebbins of Depot Rd.

Jessica Lynn Thompson born on September 7, 1981 at 7:47 am at the Franklin County Hospital. Congratulations to Wilfred Ernest and Ann Marie Isles Thompson of Mormon Hollow Rd.

Land Transfers

9/4/81 Diane Pine Kurinski to Thomas M. & Gail Bardsley; Locks Village Rd.

9/15/81 Frank J. & Margaret Culley to May McDonnell, Mary Reed; E. side of Lock Hill Rd. #1, just off Jennison Rd.

9/22/81 Earl H. Bourbeau to Artel H. & Lillian Bourbeau; Near Erving Village.

9/25/81 Donald Ellis to Max B. Wing Jr.; Farley Rd.

10/5/81 Lowell Scott to Raymond & Barbara Hellthaler; West side of Bear Mt. Rd.

10/8/81 Chester W. & Julia A. Stachelek to Stanley R. & Dorothy J. Rogalski; South side of Farley Rd.

10/19/81 Chas. R. & Vera D. Reublinger to Warren S. Oliver, Jr.; East side of Wendell Depot Rd.

10/23/81 Edward R. Farrick to John Pikiell; East side of Locks Village Rd.

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Dance

Dance classes are now being held at the Town Hall. Kindergarten thru second grade is on Fridays, 2:30 - 4:00 pm; adults are Wednesdays, 10 - 11:00 am. Jazz, American and European modern dance, exercise and warm-ups are some of the movements that are being learned.

Leader Anna Hartjens says she is having a great time giving the classes. Anna says during the summer she was teaching her daughter, Kristina some dance steps and neighboring kids came around and asked her if they could learn some steps too. She said yes and soon she did not have enough room in her house for everyone that wanted to learn.

The fee is 25¢ per class with the money going to pay for the heat used in the Town Hall. Students can get off the bus after school at the Town Hall and be picked up after the class by parents.

Both the kid's groups are working on routines which will be performed at the Annual Christmas Party on December 21st.

High Strung Music
40% off all Guild + Madera
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Wendell Reggae
Lose Cabooose
Rasta
Sponsoring a Dance at:
Guilding Star grange in greenfield
December 18, 8 p.m.

Guess Who's ?
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Serving fine Meals in a Casual Atmosphere
11am-9pm
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Lunches $1.00 and up
Dinners $3.50 to 7.50
Open mike every Wed. 8:30-11:30
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Wendell History Continued

Around 15,000 years ago, the long winter of the last glacial ice-age began to thaw and the ice-sheet retreated from south-east to north-west, opening the central areas of Mass. Valley and low-land parts stayed cold and ice-bound, while the hills drained into huge glacial lakes which held impounded waters up to 800 ft. or more. For example Lake Connecticut stretched over 200 miles from Middletown, CT nearly as far as St. Johnsbury, VT. South and central Wendell lay under Lake Wyola up to an elevation of 800-1000 ft. It's sandy bottom can still be traced. The Farley flat-lands were under the Connecticut, which was separated from Lake Wyola and Lake Mattawa, before the Millers River had severed Bear Mt. from Hermit Mt. in Erving by grouging its present channel. A unique ecological zone appeared, bounded by the glacier to the north and the forests to the south, and grasses and caribou moved in, soon followed by Palxo Indians, eleven and a half millennia ago; possibly earlier, but that's unverified.

(In the absence of extensive excavation, the history of Wendell can be inferred from the pattern of finds in the Northeast. These are so few that conclusions remain tentative: a single find could turn it all around.)

This past summer in Lyme, NH lake-side remains of group encampments bespeak human occupation comformable in type to Debert, N.S. (Canada) and to Bull Brook in Ipswich, MA. I believe that early folk may have seasonally visited Wendell and that the hearth-sites could be found; but it is not so likely that permanent homesteads ante-date the white-man's occupation of the Town. Palxo Indians, following the caribou, revisited sites seasonally, according to a rational economy of hunting and gathering, but as nomads had no domicile in Wendell or elsewhere, they were just passing through.

Sixty miles south of the ice, Debert folk ranged the perma-frost, perhaps from the Rockies to the icy Atlantic, using slender stone projectile points 3" or so long, fluted on the side at the base for hafting. Such designs may copy bone points; most remains long ago decayed, and we judge these people from the small residue of their crafts which survive. Conceivably they may have lived just south of the glaciers for ages before, and left no traces unscoured by ice and water.

Nearly two millennia later we find another early archaic culture leaving it's tool assemblage at Bull Brook in Ipswich, MA. Flint nodules of a turnip shape were pared down by knocking long slender flakes from around the core, so both core and flakes could be used. In addition varioulsy shaped scrapers and knives were made. These two cultures, like archaic cultures generally, pre-date the use of pottery and the bow. Early archaic Indians specialized in the game they tracked, but the on-set of warm weather enabled the forest to expand northward as the ice-sheet contracted. This allowed the people to develop a more generalized economy with a more varied diet. The warmth also encouraged a northerly migration of shellfish which made permanent settlements possible on the New England coast.

The period from 6,000 to 2,000 B.C. saw a warmer climate here than we have now. This period saw the end of the special zone described above and the emergence of present day geography. The climate resembled Maryland's, forests included oak and hickory. The Northeast saw the exchange of influences both from the South and from the West. Judging by better known west-coast peoples of the 18th and 19th centuries small groups wandered seasonally over more or less defined territories and assembled annually for tribal gatherings in the fall when they shared the harvest of abundance and traded goods with each other. The migrations cannot be traced but surface copper from the Great Lakes, soapstone bowls (steatite) from Appalachia, and shells from the Atlantic seaboard all circulated over an area from the Carolinas to the upper Mississippi and east down the St. Lawrence and other river systems to the ocean. It was a time of traveling before settled habitations and agriculture. We may be sure that there was widespread discovery and utilization of many animal and plant products for food and clothing as well as medicines, shelter and tools. Unlike the S.W. where nice dry caves preserved these products, our N.E. climate has left no traces of them.

Stone-age technology became specialized as needs multiplied and technique improved. Grooved hand axes (tomahawks) could be hafted by bending a light sapling around the groove and binding it tight to the handle with a leather thong. An ulu was a half-moon shaped stone which was held by the straight edge and cut as one twisted or rocked the sharp curved part. The ax could cut up animals or trees. The ulu was more of a kitchen tool. Spears can be made from sharpened poles with the point hardened by fire. Javelins are short spears. An atlatl is a spear-thrower. It is held in one hand by cradling it in one hand held over the shoulder. The javelin rests on top the atlatl held by the hook at the back. One launches the whole affair with a motion something like the one used to fly a paper airplane. The atlatl was weighted to increase thrust. These weights were not recognized by the early archeologists who called them "banner stones", a name less often used now. Of whatever shape, the weight is designed to weigh the same on each side of a central hole through which the shaft of the atlatl extended.

Bolos are pairs of round stones of equal weight with grooves. A cord 2 ft. long or so is wrapped around the grooves so that it has one bolo at each end. The idea is to release both stones at the same time to strike a target such as the legs of an animal and go around them from opposite directions.

bolo stone

By chance, the subsequent rise in sealevel has preserved for us a large fish-weir enclosing an area of two acres beneath Boylston St., Boston. It was made of poles 4 to 16 ft. long around 2,500 B.C. and maintained for some time which implies cultural continuity over two hundred years or so and the cooperation of a sizable group. At Wapanucket a nearly contemporary village of several houses was built of poles erected in a slight spiral beginning at the northeast and proceeding counter-clockwise and outward so that the final opening was on the west. Presumably the saplings were arched over and covered with thatch, hides or both. The latter site in Middleboro was close to a lake and not far from the sea. Quite possibly inland settlements of semi-permanent nature would have brought people within the area around Wendell. Soon after changes in population and climate brought the archaic period to an end. A variety of burial customs is noted, some by cremation, some interment. Considerable collections of grave goods attest cultural complexity and relative prosperity, possibly the outcome of early farming.

atlatl weight

gouge

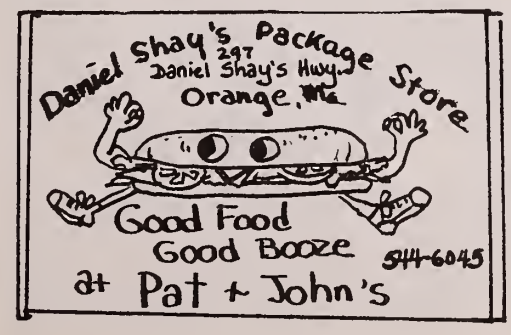
Around Lake Superior and the Ohio Valley various peoples interacted, nomads to the north, hunters of the plains, and settlers on the lake and river flood-plains. This produced the "old-copper culture". The history of agriculture is obscure, but a focus some where in the S.E. of the U.S. is likely. Probably it spread into the upper-Mississippi-Ohio region before the N.E., and the so-called Adena culture arose in the area where all the rivers led. Beyond question these folks had boats and rapidly diffused trade goods and cultural fashions. A slender long-headed pre-Adena population was supplanted by broad-faced Adena folk who were later succeeded by the tall, long-headed, sharply featured Algonquins of history. For our purposes the Adena complex is dominated by the introduction of pottery, bows and arrows, pipes, cradle-boards, and the cultivation of squashes, amaranth, and beans. Absent are maize-corn and tobacco, later to be introduced; as well as the elaborate social stratification and death ritual with priestlings, corvee, and mounds which never appear in the N.E. Adena influences penetrated the East from 1,000 B.C. to A.D. 1,000. During the last ½ of this time the Algonquian groups spread from the Great Lakes region west to Puget Sound and east to the ocean where they were found in historic times from Virginia all the way up the coast into Canada. The earliest Indian finds I know in Wendell are a small group of Adena artifacts found on the Johnson Farm.

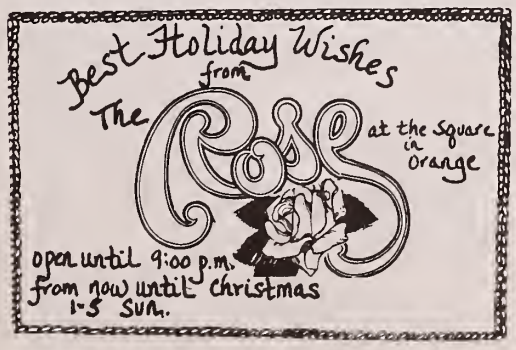
grooved axe

projectile point.

The next sketch will deal with the Algonquians who came to dominate the N.E. before the whites arrived.

2nd in series by Charles T. Smith.
To be continued...





Selectmen's Minutes

WENDELL TOWN HALL

September 15, 1981

Chairman Lewis spoke to Highway Surveyor Joseph Williams about several matters: a.)Water hole on Wickett Pond Rd., b.)Bullard Pasture Rd. work, c.)use of loader to load logs, d.)Erving Center Bridge, e.)welder in pickup, f.)empty barrels on Common, g.)Farley Rd. and washouts, h.)Locks Village Rd.

Discussed the Dog Officers position with Tom Bardsley. He requested an annual salary of $525/year. He also requested the use of the Town pick-up on weekends because he objects to using his car for transporting dogs. Joe Williams said that the pick-up would probably be available most weekends. Decisions on this matter will be made when the full Board can get together.

Don Mackey said that he looses a lot of gravel from his driveway every time it rains due to the water flow from the top of the hill. The Board suggested using patch until a better solution can be found.

Met with Roland Leveille of the State Dept. of Enviornmental Management to discuss what are Town Roads. What roads are State Forest Roads.

Ted reported that he has met twice with the Chairman of the Erving Board of Selectmen over the Bridge Street Bridge over the Millers River.

October 6, 1981

The Planning Board represented by Chairperson Helen Boland, Thomas Wetherby and Parker Cleveland proposed the name of Patricia A. Jewler to fill the vacancy that exists in their board. Approved 5 yes, 0 no. Voting - 3 Planning Bd. members and Selectmen Lewis and Simos (Boland not present).

Discussed pay rates presently paid to full time employees:

	Present Rate	Proposed Rate
Highway Surveyor	6.19	6.44
Truck Driver	5.30	5.54
Labor	4.13	4.54

The proposed rates were approved 3 yes, 0 no.

Discussed land along "Gate Lane" - just a Right-of-Way or Town Road was discussed.

Discussed the money situation with the Dog Officers. It was explained that if one of them resigns a raise can be given to the other. If Daniel Bacigalupo resigns, Tom Bardsley stated that he would continue at the terms discussed earlier (annual salary $525, use of Town pick-up truck to transport dogs). Ted explained that whomever takes the job, that the money will be frozen at the amount appropriated until the end of the fiscal year. The use of the Town pick-up is restricted to the same rules as the Road Boss lives by. The Board requested that a log book be kept for the Dog Officer's use of the pick-up. Tom asked about work loss time because of the job due to a dog - farm animal problem. No decision made.

Bruce Cohen came to discuss Walter Fairbrother's tower. He is concerned for safety, TV reception, etc. Ed Boland mentioned that he and Ken spoke to Mr. Fairbrother last week. Mr. Fairbrother said that he would help anyone who had TV problems. Ed says that he still has problems with safety of the tower. The Board is still looking into the safety aspects of the tower. Their concern is that it is safe and properly insured. After the Special Town Meeting on 9/29/81 Mr. Fairbrother did say that he would help anyone with TV reception problems due to his equipment.

Erving Center Bridge - Ken wants us to start documenting all conversations with the Erving Selectmen.

October 20, 1981

The Board voted the following resolution:

As of 10/20/81, it is henceforth the policy of the Town of Wendell that animals held in public custody shall not be seized, sold, delivered or given away for the purposes of research, experimentation, instruction, or toxicity testing.

Discussed Chapter 90. Ted will contact the State about having one of the open contracts re-written so that we can re-construct the Morse Village Rd. bill or re-seal some other Chapt. 90 road.

7:30 pm - Bid opening.

Winter Sand:

Warner Bros.	4.50/Ton	
B.L. Frye	3.00/Cu.Yd.	Awarded
Northfield	3.50/Ton	

Salt: NO Bidders

Ted called Ed Hawks about Chpt. 90 roads. Ed suggested that we use the money that we presently have on some of our 100% roads doing such projects as re-sealing, replacing fences, etc.

Set time for Surplus Town Equipment Auction: Saturday, December 12, 1981 at 10:00 am.

Discussed school transportation money.

Ken Simos was appointed interim Chairman of the Board for the time that Chairman Lewis is unable to get around with ease due to his broken leg.

November 3, 1981

The annual warrant to kill unlicensed dogs was signed by Chairman Theodore Lewis. A list of approximately 100 dog owners was presented to the Selectmen.

Ted and Ken met with the Erving Selectmen last evening. The Boards will have a cost estimate to repair the bridge sometime next week. This will be from the Engineering firm (Tighe & Bond) that evaluated the bridge.

The Board discussed articles for a Special Town Meeting. Meeting date, December 15, 1981 at 7:00 pm. Articles discussed: 1)for the School Committee, 2)Erving Center Bridge repair, 3)purchasing Bourbeau's property, 4)use of Free Cash to reduce the Tax Rate.

Discussed repairs to both Farley and Bridge St. bridges.

Administrative Ass't. Rita Farrell informed the Board of steps that she has taken to find out more about krenite and other related herbicide matters.

The Selectmen want to thank the Wendell Golden Agers for the drapes that they so generously donated to the Town Hall.

Rita Farrell brought the Board up to date on the negotiations about the Admin. Ass't. program for funding with the county.

Discussed the possibility of applying for a Community Development Grant.

November 17, 1981

Joe Williams received a phone call from Mr. MacDonald from the DPW in Boston informing him that the DPW wants the Farley Bridge closed immediately. The reason he gave is the state wants the load limit changed from 3 ton to 6 ton and the Selectmen are waiting for official written word.

Joe was instructed to find someone with a snowblower to clear the Arch Street Bridge and make a path to the Bourbeau residence on Old Farley Rd.

They discussed the dog problem in which the dog officer shot a dog that caught himself in a hunter's trap. The Board instructed Tom to get a snare for future use of vicious dogs.

Respectfully submitted,

Harry S. Williston III
Clerk

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S+H Green Stamps

New Salem Posting

Santa A'Coming

The fire department will be sponsoring New Salem's annual pot-luck Christmas party at the Town Hall, December 23 at 6:00. Bring a dish to share and your own plates and utensils, drinks will be provided. Santa Claus will be giving gifts to all children through the sixth grade at 7:00. Steven Schoenberg will be leading the Christmas carols and all are welcome to join in the holiday festivities.

New Salem Planning Board

This article will explain the workings of the New Salem Planning Board. The Board consists of five members elected for various terms one to five years.

The Planning Board's main function is to control land usage in the town. The instrument which allows this control is the Zoning By-laws. The By-laws were originally adopted in 1969, with revisions incorporated in 1974, 1975 and 1978. A copy of the By-laws are available to all interested parties by request from the Planning Board.

The Board meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, and occassionally at other additional times when the work load could not be handled at regualar meetings. Meetings are open to the public and persons attending will always have an opportunity to express opinions.

The town is entirely Zoned Agricultural-Residential, which means land usage for agriculture or single family dwellings are permitted as a matter of right. Most other uses are allowed by the use of a Special Permit.

Special Permits are issued by the Planning Board, and are always preceded by a Public Hearing conducted by the Planning Board. The Public Hearing is the most important input that the Board has when it is considering a Special Permit. Notice of Public Hearings are posted on town bulletin boards and appear two times in the Athol Daily News. Abuttors to the land useage invlved are always contacted directly.

In issuing a Special Permit, the Planning Board will usually include restriction which hope fully address the town's concerns in land use. These restrictions can be general, such as time limit on the Permit; or very specific to the use, such as requiring the intended activity to submit a list of hazardous materials, used on a regular basis.

Some of the recent permits issued have been; an auto repair facility, and a gravel excavation operation, cutting of trees to widen roads, and a solar collector manufacturing facility. Some permits pending are: operation of an appliance store, and a septage drying bed facility.

It is worth emphasizing that the townspeople do have a great deal of control in how the land is used in town, which determines the character of the town. How well the control is used, does require that the Planning Board listens to the towns people and acts appropriately.

Current members are: Carolyn Wilbur, Bradley Fisher, Josh Winder Hank Cramer, and Ted Voutselas.

New Salem Library

South Main Street
Open: Wed. 10-8
Sat. 9-2
544-6437

The recently published Athol Area Library and Community Analysis contains sixteen pages concerning the town of New Salem and the New Salem Public Library. The report begins with a brief history of the town and follows with such information such as population characteristics, commercial activities and culture. The analysis of the public library includes a list of sixteen recommendations which suggest providing bathroom facilities, initiating an energy audit of building, updating of book collection, starting a Friends of the Library, and cooperation with the Wendell Public Library. A telephone questionaire of New Salem residents shows that 12 out of 20 persons interviewed use the library. In a comparison of other towns of comparable size, New Salem rated first in the number of books that circulated. Copies of the report may be obtained at the New Salem Library.

The library is plrased to announce a New Salem Community Resource Board where residents may post their skills, services or home products. Interested persons may come to the library and fill out an information form. All information will be typed on cards and psoted on the Resource Board. The library is open Wed. 10-8 and Sat. 9-2. For more information, please call the library 544-6437 during opened hours.

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Phone - 544-2896

New Salem Store + Restaurant
Open 7 Days a Week
Restaurant - 6:30 am - 4:00 pm
Store - 6:30 am - 6:00 pm
Sunday Brunch - Daily Specials
Homemade Soup, bread, desserts

No To Nuke Storage - New Salem Special Meeting

Unlike the usual sparse attendance at special town meetings that of Nov. 30 almost filled the downstairs assembly room of New Salem's townhall. The reason? School appropriations and a zoning bylaw forbidding storage, burial, incineration or disposal of nuclear waste. It was suggested that an ammendment to the bylaw be made excluding medical nuclear waste. However, this ammendment was not passed. The zoning bylaw required a 2/3 majority vote in order to pass which it recieved.

The ½ day kindergarten session poses a transportation problem costing the town $6,000 annually. Some concern over the amount of dollars for the few children attending kindergarten was expressed, but the motion was finally passed. However, the motion requesting $4339 to meet the town's share in the operating costs of Swift River School was denied; insufficient information regarding the spending of the money was the expressed concern.

In other business the town voted to turn off all street lights until conclusions are drawn from a study determining which sections of New Salem need lighting. The meeting also passed the following articles : to alot $3,100 for a new steam boiler and energy saving improvements for the townhall; and to put the center school up for bid.

Book Review: Quabbin: The Accidental Wilderness by Thomas Conuel

With more than a little interest in the Quabbin Reservation, I am offering this review on the latest book about Quabbin. This is Tom Conuel's Quabbin: The Accidental Wilderness prepared for the Mass. Audubon Society. This small book of 62 pages is well written, easy to read, and with only a few errors. I am sure the author was limited to a small book and this makes it impossible to cover the subject adequately.

There are some fine photographs which illustrate a settled valley being transformed into a reservoir via war like destruction, and then forty years later a beautiful wilderness with eagles soaring.

The Quabbin Wilderness is an illusion which the photographs fail to show. They do not include the thousands of motor boats, logging trucks, felling of trees, cars and trucks of privileged people, nor the sounds and smells of these activities. Wilderness doesn't include these activities, yet wilderness should not be the main issue. The production of clean water is the issue, and the fact that this use can co-exist with viable wildlife and forest communities without spoiling the scenic values, is the issue.

But the book spends a great deal of time on the sport fisheries program which is mostly artificial and a potential and constant threat to contamination of the water. I do not see any future for motorized fishing or any water based recreation. Yet I do see a great potential for foot based recreation with guided tours through the watershed to view the finest forest and wildlife communities found in a temperate region. Quiet is essential to this use and can be obtained.

cont: next page

Outdoors In Wendell

by Myron J. Becker

It's coming on to the time of year when getting outdoors for recreational purposes takes an almost fanatical dedication to the pursuit of happiness, or the uncanny ability to be "ready for winter".

By the time this article reaches your almost frost-bitten hands, The Big Hunt (deer season) will be over. May you have had good luck. There are an impressive number of deer in the Wendell herd this year and it looks like a lean winter coming for both the deer and us. Some meat in the freezer will be a plus. So far, a few folks in town are all ready in venison.

Tilly Burnett sojourned 200 mi. to the Adirondacks to harvest a 125 lb. 4 point buck, as did Jim Paddock, who came home with a 150 lb. 8 pointer. Don Richardson chose N.H. to get his 111 lb. doe.

Doesn't it seem that there's an awfull lot of posted land this year? There's no denying that the trend of posting seems more popular every season. I'm not sure how much of this is in response to slobs who masquerade as sportsmen, but the preponderance of No Trespassing signs serves as a good reminder that our actions and behavior in the woods and fields will impact on the future of our outdoor heritage.

The Ruffed Grouse population is on an obvious upswing this year, with the past 2 gentle winters giving the birds and hunters a welcome break. Even I was able to make enough unbelievably lucky shots to savor a few of these, which are truely one of nature's most delicious offerings. My theory is that it is a phenomenon akin to the lemming syndrone which causes the usually impossible target to fly into my shot pattern.

In a more serious vein, the Mass. Dept. of Fish and Wildlife still hasn't gotten around to making any moves in restoring a fisheries management program on the Millers River. The river has basically been given a clean bill of health, but the project still remains on the D.F.W.'s back burner. To be fair, the D.F.W. has fallen heir to the same financial cutbacks inflicted on any of the state or federal agencies that deal with environmental concerns and are not involved in the war effort or making the financially fortunate more fortunate.

While on the subject of government activities, I would like to take this opportunity to report as Wendell representative to the Millers River Water Shed Council on the Annual Meeting recently held. A representative from the M.D.C. was on hand to present the Commissions plans to divert water from the Millers River to Quabbin to benefit the potentially thirsty industries and citizens of the Greater Boston Area. As the representative expressed it, "We like your river. We want it." So folks, the diversion project is very much alive but quiet in the study stage.

I close this column in memory of Leo Jones, Sr., a man who spent more time outdoors in Wendell than I ever will, a woodsman and a friend.

Right, right, Leo, right, right

On Being Healthy

Maryvonne Kutsch

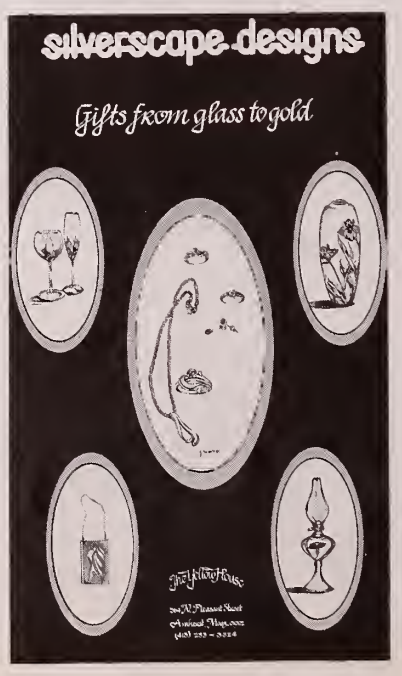
The mineral elements in the body are referred to as inorganic or ash constituents. The reason they are so called is because they are like the product which remains after wood or coal burns. In the body, organic material is "oxidized" and the mineral components remain afterwards. Knowledge on the mineral requirements for the body has been quite recently obtained but at this time there are fourteen different minerals which are known to be needed by the human body for good health and growth. Certain mineral elements are found in large quantities (more than 0.05%) in the body, like calcium, phosphorus, potassium, magnesium, and sulfur. They are known as macro-minerals. Other minerals which are found in smaller quantities are called microminerals or trace elements. These minerals are iron, iodine, manganese, copper, zinc, cobalt, and flourine. It is also suspected that three other minerals, selenium, molybdenun and chromium may be important to the workings of the body. The functions of the minerals are as follows: 1)body builders, 2)body regulating functions, 3)functioning of some enzymes, 4)transmission of nerve impulses.

Calcium: The body contains more calcium than any other mineral. It is a well known fact that calcium is stored in the teeth and bones, and is essential to their growth and maintenance, but most people do not know the importance of calcium in the nervous and muscular sustem. Lack of calcium can result in sore, stiff muscles and problems with nerve impulses. It is also essential in other body regulating processes such as blood clot formation, regulation of cell membranes, and absorption of Vitamin B-12. It can also prevent or hinder the absorption of Strontium 90, a product which is present in the fallout from nuclear explosion.

Please do not think that as an adult, your need for calcium may disappear, because a deficiency in calcium can set off a series of disorders. When calcium intake is low, the bones send their calcium to the blood system so that it can furnish this needed mineral to the muscles and nerves. This can cause the bones to become brittle and soft. As the need or lack continues, problems arise in the nervous and muscular systems.

The main food sources of calcium are milk and milk products, but fairly good amounts may also be found in green leafy vegetables (excluding spinach and chard as they are suspected to somewhat inhibit the absorption of calcium). Vitamin "D" helps to improve the absorption of calcium and that is one reason why milk which is fortified with Vitamin "D" is so helpful to the body. EXCESS fiber in the body can interfere with calcium absorption but most people do not get enough fiber in their diet so that is not usually a problem (some vegetarians should take note!)

Next issue I will deal with the other minerals. Please! In these hard times of money hardships, some people in our town may indeed find themselves with little to put on their tables. Our world will better survive if communities such as ours, band together and help our neighbors in need. Let us also conserve, eliminate waste and make the most of what we have. Happy and Loveful Holidays to All! M.V.



Quabbin.. cont.

In the chapter on water supplies the author fails to make it clear that the MDC already has almost absolute water rights on the upper Sudbury River. A proposal to add part of the Sudbury Watershed to the water supply system is only the treatment of polluted water from one of its old systems that was abandoned 40-50 years ago. People living along the Sudbury River (some are Audubon members) do not want to see the river level lowered. I believe the entire MDC Sudbury system of reservoirs and aquaducts can equal the Conn. River Diversion in terms of millions of gallons per day.

In summary, this book should be read by anyone interested in the Quabbin, but one should also read Howe, see Jack Swedberg's movies and slides, visit the Swift River Historical Society, read the MDC Management Plan for these lands, and maybe become involved in a Friends of the Quabbin Society.

by: Bruce Spencer

Quabbin: The Accicental Wilderness
by Thomas Conuel
Mass. Audubon Society, Lincoln, MA
the Stephen Greene Press,
Brattleboro, VT